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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/665,378 | 09/22/2003 | Makoto Shimizu | 492322013700 | 5022 |
| 25227 | 7590 | 02/22/2005 | EXAMINER | |
| MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP 1650 TYSONS BOULEVARD SUITE 300 MCLEAN, VA 22102 | | | DAVIS, OCTAVIA L | |
| | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER | |
| | | | 2855 | |

DATE MAILED: 02/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/665,378 | SHIMIZU ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Octavia Davis | 2855 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 January 2005.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-5 and 11-17 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 6-10 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

| | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Group II, claims 6 – 10 in the reply filed on 1/5/05 is acknowledged.

Specification

2. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because of the following formality: On line 2, replace "configure" with "configured". Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Drawings

3. Figures 10A – 10C should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

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(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Suga.

Regarding claim 6, Suga discloses a fingerprint detection apparatus comprising an insulating substrate 101, unit detection elements 103 disposed on the insulating substrate in a matrix form; a flexible conductive film 102 facing the unit detection elements, drain wires 113 connected to corresponding terminals of the unit detection elements, gate wires 114 connected to corresponding terminals of the unit detection elements', a horizontal scanning circuit 115 selecting the drain wires sequentially, a vertical scanning circuit 116 sending a scanning signal to the gate wires sequentially, a sensor control circuit 112 connected to the horizontal scanning circuit and the vertical scanning circuit and a sensor actuation signal wire (See Fig. 7) connected to the sensor control circuit, wherein the sensor control circuit is configured to receive a sensor actuation signal through the sensor actuation signal wire and configured to switch off the unit detection elements 103 operational under the operation mode and to switch on the unit detection elements not operational under the standby mode in response to the sensor actuation signal (See Col. 9, lines 1 – 25 and Col. 10, lines 11 – 35).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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7. Claims 7 – 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suga in view of Knapp (5,325,442).

Regarding claim 7, Suga discloses all of the limitations of these claims except for a teaching that a sensor area surrounding the unit detection elements, portions of the drain and gate wires and the switch. However, Knapp discloses a fingerprint sensing device and a recognition system comprising a sensor area 10 that includes detection elements 12, drain and gate wires (See Col. 5, lines 61 – 65, Fig. 2) and a switching device 16 (See Col. 5, lines 45 – 60, Fig. 1).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Suga according to the teachings of Knapp for the purpose of, Utilizing an active matrix addressed sensing pad that produces large area active matrix arrays (See Knapp, Cols. 5 and 6, lines 66 – 68 and 1- 5).

Regarding claim 8, in Suga, switching device 117 provides the actuation signal (See Fig. 7).

Regarding claim 9, in Suga, the switches 110, 11 are disposed between the detection elements 103 and is connected to the sensor actuation signal wire.

Regarding claim 10, in Suga, one of the unit detection elements is configured to serve as the switch under the standby mode (See Col. 10, lines 40 – 54 and 60 – 65).

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Young (5,952,588) discloses a capacitive sensing array device.

Ishiguro (6,150,283) discloses a TFT fabrication method capable of forming on a large surface area substrate with uniform film thickness.

Chae (6,688,186) discloses a slim type fingerprint recognition device.

Knapp (6,370,965) discloses a capacitive sensing array device.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to examiner Octavia Davis at telephone number (571) 272 - 2176. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursdays (9:00 - 5:00), Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Lefkowitz, can be reached on (571) 272 - 2180. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872 – 9306.

OD/2855

2/15/05



MAXNOORI
PRIMARY EXAMINER